



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION VIII, MONTANA OFFICE  
FEDERAL BUILDING, 301 S. PARK, DRAWER 10096  
HELENA, MONTANA 59626-0096



1244084 - R8 SDMS

Ref: 8MO

February 16, 1989

Mr. William Porter, Manager  
American Chemet Corporation  
East Helena, Montana 59635

Dear Mr. Porter:

The Environmental Protection Agency has recently contracted with a Denver-based firm, J.F. Sato and Associates, for the purpose of conducting a potentially responsible party (PRP) search into the operations of the American Chemet Corporation and the Anaconda Minerals Corporation at East Helena.

This PRP search will enable the EPA to determine to what extent the American Chemet Corporation and the Anaconda Minerals Corporation, as past or present owners, operators, generators, or transporters of hazardous substances, may be liable for cleanup at the East Helena smelter CERCLA site.

Two representatives of J.F. Sato and Associates, Ms. Rosemarie Russo and Mr. Tsegaye Hailu, have met with Sandra Moreno (EPA's Office of Regional Counsel), Kevin Kirley (MDHES) and me. We discussed background information and a work plan outline was developed. Once Ms. Russo and Mr. Hailu have reviewed the materials sent to the EPA by your company in March 1987, in response to EPA's CERCLA Sec. 104(e) request, and discussions are conducted with Mr. Robert Raisch of Montana's Air Quality Bureau, the PRP search work plan will be written and a title search will begin. In order to complete the PRP search, we will need such information as:

- a) raw materials handled;
- b) materials produced;
- c) methods of handling, smelting, fuming or manufacturing;
- d) sources of emissions (both primary and fugitive);
- e) period of operation;
- f) compliance record; and
- g) other pertinent operational information.

If this PRP search reveals there is a need for information in addition to that which has already been provided by your company, or possibly a site visit, either Sandra Moreno or I will submit a request to you.

At this time, we do not see any reason for our contractors to contact you. I simply wanted to inform you of our activities in this regard. Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any question or concern.

Sincerely,



D. Scott Brown  
Environmental Scientist

cc: Eric Finke, 8MO  
Sandra Moreno, 8RC  
Kevin Kirley, MDHES  
Rosemarie Russo, J.F. Sato Assoc.  
Tsegaye Hailu, J.F. Sato Assoc.  
Jon C. Nickel, ASARCO Incorporated



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Mr. Robert L. Dent  
Anaconda Minerals Company  
555 Seventeenth St.  
Denver, Colorado 80202

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CONCURRENCE COPY

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*JMO*  
*2/16/89*

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Kevin Kirley, MDHES ✓  
Rosemarie Russo, J.F. Sato Assoc. ✓  
Tsegaye Hailu, J.F. Sato Assoc. ✓  
Jon C. Nickel, ASARCO Incorporated ✓

FCD:February 16, 1989:EHP RPSRC.H89

Scott Brown, 8MO, 2-15-89

Sandra Moreno, 8RC, concurred with draft

CONCURRENCE COPY

*Sent*

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